

TITLE 730. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CHAPTER 35. MAINTENANCE AND CONTROL OF STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM

RULEMAKING ACTION:

Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking

PROPOSED RULES:

Subchapter 13. Freeway Signage Supplement Guide Signs [AMENDED]

730:35-13-1. Purpose [AMENDED]

730:35-13-2. Criteria and limitations for traffic generator signs [AMENDED]

730:35-13-3. Traffic generators that do not normally warrant signing [AMENDED]

730:35-13-4. Tourist oriented directional signs (TODS) [AMENDED]

APPENDIX D. [REVOKED]

APPENDIX E. [REVOKED]

APPENDIX F. [REVOKED]

SUMMARY:

The proposed amendments are needed to bring the rules into compliance with existing law regarding directional signs and to remove outdated language that unnecessarily constricts ODOT's authority to perform certain maintenance and traffic control responsibilities allowed by statute. Amendments are needed to make appropriate reference to the correct versions of federal guidelines used by the Department.

AUTHORITY:

69 O.S. 2021, §§ 301, 303, 304, 1502; HB 3243 effective Nov. 1, 2022, *repealing* 74 O.S. §§ 2284, 2285; Oklahoma Transportation Commission.

COMMENT PERIOD:

Persons wishing to present their comments or view in writing may do so before 5:00 p.m. on February 2, 2023, to Lisa Erickson Endres, ODOT Assistant General Counsel and Administrative Procedures Rulemaking Liaison, 200 N.E. 21st, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 or at lendres@odot.org.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A public hearing has not been scheduled; however, pursuant to 75 O.S., Section 303(B)(9), "persons may demand a hearing" by contacting Lisa Erickson Endres, ODOT Assistant General Counsel and Administrative Procedures Rulemaking Liaison, at (405) 521-2681 or lendres@odot.org no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 2, 2023.

REQUESTS FOR COMMENTS FROM BUSINESS ENTITIES:

N/A

COPIES OF PROPOSED RULES:

Copies of the proposed rules may be obtained from the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Lisa Erickson Endres, Assistant General Counsel, 200 N.E. 21st Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 or a request for a copy of the rules can be sent electronically to lendres@odot.org.

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT:

Pursuant to 75 O.S., §303(D), a rule impact statement is being prepared and will be available for review on or before January 18, 2023, at the above address or on the ODOT website beginning on January 18, 2023.

CONTACT PERSON:

Lisa Erickson Endres, (405) 521-2681 or lendres@odot.org

NAME OF AGENCY:

Department of Transportation

TYPE OF DOCUMENT:

Notice of rulemaking intent

LIAISON VERIFICATION:

I verify that I have reviewed the attached document and that it substantially conforms to filing and format requirements of the APA and the rules of the Secretary of State. Additional information may be obtained by contacting me at 405-521-2681.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Erickson Endres", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lisa Erickson Endres

Assistant General Counsel for ODOT

Dated: December 8, 2022

SUBCHAPTER 13. FREEWAY SIGNING ~~SUPPLEMENT~~ SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDE SIGNS

730:35-13-1. Purpose

The purpose of this subchapter is to establish criteria for determining when a destination qualifies as a traffic generator for which supplemental guide signs may be erected on freeways and expressways. Tourist oriented directional signs may be erected on ~~freeways, expressways or rural~~ conventional roadways. To carry out this purpose, the Department adopts and utilizes the most recent edition of MUTCD, "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices", as well as the most recent edition of the AASHTO Guidelines for Supplemental Guide Signs

730:35-13-2. Criteria and limitations for traffic generator signs

(a) Before a sign for a traffic generator is installed, sufficient space should exist to accommodate the placement of the sign without interfering or conflicting with required signing. Supplemental guide signs for traffic generators should not be installed at freeway-to-freeway interchanges.

(1) Not more than one supplemental guide sign should be provided in each direction along any freeway. Signs for a traffic generator shall be located in advance of the intersecting road that provides the shortest and most direct route to the facility.

(2) Under exceptional circumstances, when the prime criteria shown in Appendix D of this Chapter the AASHTO Guidelines for Supplemental Guide Signs is exceeded by at least 50 percent, consideration may be given to displaying the information at a second freeway exit. This must be documented and justified by a traffic engineering study. This shall not occur without written concurrence from the State Traffic Engineer.

(3) Supplemental guide signs shall not be erected for a traffic generator that would require a motorist to travel on the intersecting road beyond a second freeway.

(4) Signing for a seasonal generator or an event may be displayed when warranted. When located within five (5) miles of the interchange, and when the Transportation Department determines, it is justified to sign for seasonal events or specific events at auditoriums, convention halls, arenas, stadiums, and fairgrounds, supplemental guide signs may be erected. Such signing shall be removed at the end of the season or event.

(5) Only two traffic generators may be displayed on a single, permanent or seasonal supplemental guide sign. When more than two traffic generators meet the signing criteria, generators having the greatest demand for signing should be shown.

(6) Signing for a traffic generator should not be displayed on a supplemental guide sign until signing has been installed at the ramp terminals and trailblazing signing installed along the intersecting road leading to the generator. Trailblazer signs off the state highway system shall be erected and maintained by local governments and shall conform to the most current edition of the MUTCD, "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices". Trailblazer signing that is not properly installed or maintained shall be justification for removal of the advance guide signs on the freeway system.

~~(b) Signs for a traffic generator may be erected on a freeway or expressway when all of the criteria specified in Appendix D of this Chapter are met for the particular generator.~~

730:35-13-3. Traffic generators that do not normally warrant signing

Except under unusual circumstances, supplemental signing should not be considered for the generators shown in ~~Appendix E of this Chapter~~ Table 1 of the AASHTO Guidelines for Supplemental Guide Signs. Signs for these generators shall only be considered after a traffic engineering study and shall not be erected without written concurrence from the ~~Chief State~~ Chief State Traffic Engineer.

730:35-13-4. Tourist oriented directional signs (TODS)

~~(a) The Oklahoma Tourism Signage Advisory Task Force as created by 74 O.S. § 1891 performs screening and issues recommendations to the Department concerning directional signs for tourism and travel related attractions and enterprises in this state.~~

~~(b) (a)~~ Tourist-oriented directional signs TODS are guide signs with one or more sign panels that display the business identification of and directional information for eligible business, service, and activity facilities.

~~(c) (b)~~ The specific criteria for Tourist-Oriented Directional Signs TODS are included in The Oklahoma Tourist Oriented Directional Signs Policy. All signage must be in compliance with the most recent version of MUTCD, "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices", for consistency and uniformity. This program is handled through an application process administered by the Traffic Engineering Division. Requesting facilities are required to pay for approved signs.

APPENDIX D. PREFERRED GUIDELINE CRITERIA FOR SIGNING TRAFFIC GENERATORS ON FREEWAYS OR EXPRESSWAYS

Figure 4

Trailblazing signing off the state highway system shall be installed prior to the installation of any Tourist-Oriented Directional Signing, and shall conform to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Trailblazing signing that is not properly installed or maintained shall be justification for removal of the advance guide signs on the highway system.

- a. ~~Airports. City or County owned with regularly scheduled airline passenger service.~~
~~Distance from Interchange:~~
~~Major Metropolitan Area, Urban Area or Rural Area~~ ~~15 Miles~~
~~Color:~~ ~~White Legend/Green Background~~
- b. ~~College and Universities. Fully accredited by Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.~~
~~Distance from Interchange:~~
~~Major Metropolitan Area, Urban Area, or Rural Area~~ ~~5 Miles~~
~~Color:~~ ~~White Legend/Green Background~~
- c. ~~Vo-Tech Schools/Technology Centers. Fully accredited by Oklahoma State Department of Vo-Tech Education.~~
~~Distance from Interchange:~~ ~~5 Miles~~
~~Color:~~ ~~White Legend/Green Background~~
- d. ~~Military Bases. Minimum of 5,000 employees and permanently assigned military personnel.~~
~~Distance from Interchange:~~ ~~5 Miles~~
~~Color:~~ ~~White Legend/Green Background~~
- e. ~~Amusement Parks, Arenas, Auditoriums, Fairgrounds, Convention Halls, Major Recreational Areas, Museums, Stadiums, State Parks, and Zoos.~~
~~Distance from Interchange:~~ ~~5 Miles~~
~~Minimum Annual Attendance:~~ ~~50,000~~
~~Color:~~ ~~White Legend/Green Background~~
- f. ~~National Parks or Monuments.~~
~~Distance from Interchange:~~ ~~5 Miles~~
~~Color:~~ ~~White Legend/Brown Background~~
- g. ~~Hospitals. Shall have a resident physician on duty 24 hours per day; 7 days per week.~~
~~Distance from Interchange:~~ ~~5 Miles~~
~~Color:~~ ~~White Legend/Blue Background~~

APPENDIX E. TRAFFIC GENERATORS THAT DO NOT NORMALLY WARRANT SIGNING
Figure 1

~~BUSINESS~~

~~TV/Radio Stations~~
~~Theaters~~
~~Motels/Hotels/Inns*~~
~~Trailer Parks*~~
~~Industrial Parks & Plants~~
~~Shopping Centers~~

~~CEMETERIES~~

~~Local or State~~
~~Private/Public~~
~~Military~~

~~COMMUNITIES~~

~~Civic Centers~~
~~Libraries~~
~~Churches~~
~~Subdivisions~~

~~GOVERNMENTAL~~

~~Research/Experimental~~
~~County & City Facilities~~
~~Courthouses~~
~~Driver's License Centers~~
~~Highway Buildings~~
~~Jails/Prisons~~
~~Civil Defense Facilities~~
~~Maintenance Facilities~~
~~Power Plants~~

~~SCHOOLS~~

~~Grade/High~~
~~Vocational/Trade~~
~~Seminaries~~
~~Private~~

~~MEDICAL~~

~~Mental Facilities~~
~~Research Facilities~~
~~Sanitariums~~
~~Infirmaries or Treatment Centers~~
~~Veterans Facilities~~
~~County, Fraternal, or~~
~~Nursing Homes~~
~~Retirement Facilities~~
~~Humane Facilities~~
~~Emergency Medical Services*~~

~~MILITARY~~

~~Sites or Detachment~~
~~Armories~~
~~Arsenals~~

~~RECREATIONAL/CONSERVATIONAL~~

~~Country Clubs & Golf Courses~~
~~Fish Hatcheries, Game Farms,~~
~~Preserves and Refuges~~
~~Tree Nurseries/Arboretums~~
~~Points of Interest~~
~~Camps: Scout, Church, 4-H,~~
~~Youth & YMCA/YWCA~~

~~HISTORICAL~~

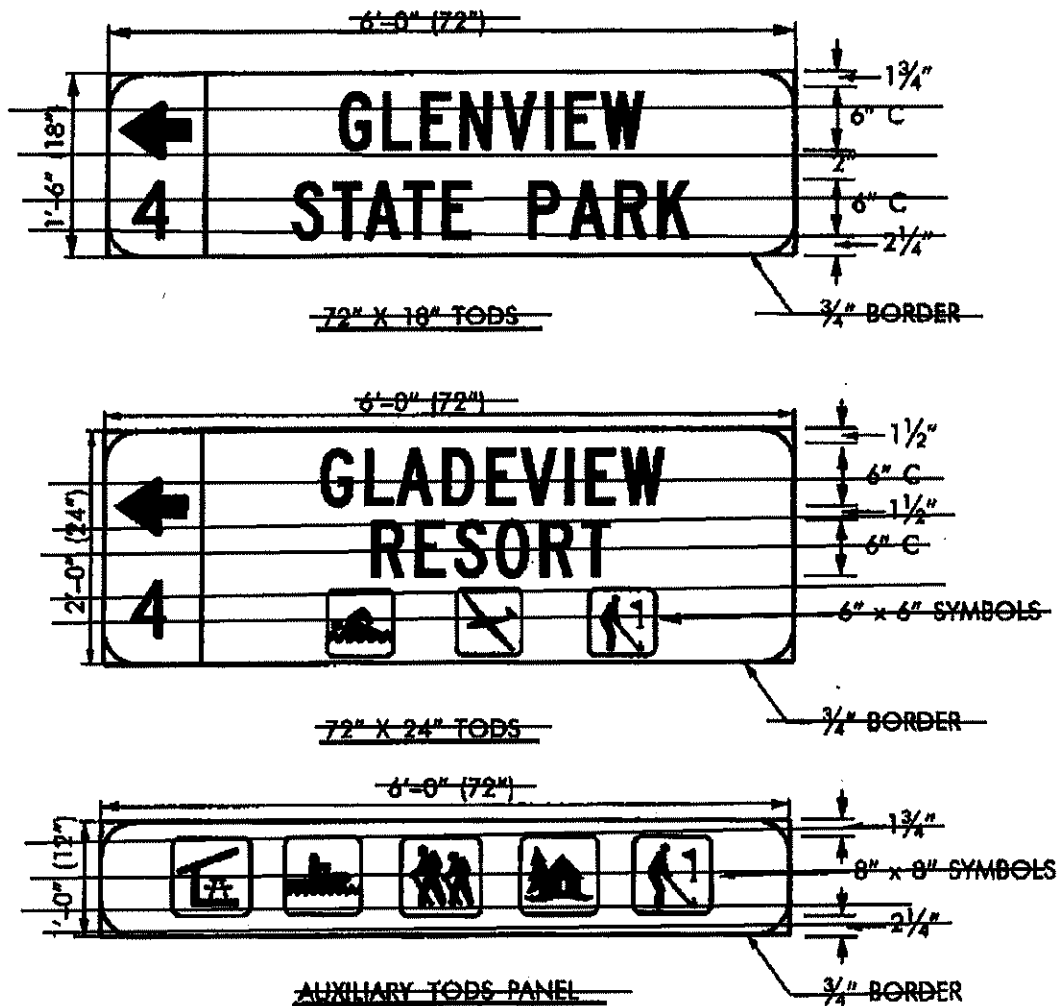
~~Homes and Buildings~~
~~Privately Owned Facility~~

*Items may be included on Motorist Service signs

(GAS-FOOD-LODGING-HOSPITAL-CAMPING-TOURISM ATTRACTIONS)

APPENDIX F. TOURIST ORIENTED DIRECTIONAL SIGNING (TODS)

Figure-1



SIGN COLOR

- LEGEND AND BORDER. WHITE
- BACKGROUND. BLUE OR BROWN
- SYMBOL. WHITE
- SYMBOL BACKGROUND. BLUE OR BROWN